

THE PACIFIC
Commercial Advertiser
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LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY, SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1868.
The Legislative Assembly met at 12 o'clock M. in pursuance of the Proclamation of His Majesty the King.

The Royal Commissioners, His H. M. McKean, and His H. M. Allen appeared, and their Commission was read as follows:
KAMAHAMEHA V., By the Grace of God, King of the Hawaiian Islands.
To our well-beloved and revered father, MATAO KUKUANOA, Commander-in-Chief of all our Forces, and to our truly and well-beloved subjects, His Honor ELEANOR H. L. SHEDDEN, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and Chancellor of the Kingdom:—GREETING:

Whereas, It has been our special will and pleasure, in pursuance of the provisions of our Constitution, that the members of the Legislative Assembly of our Kingdom should assemble at the Court House, in our City of Honolulu, for the dispatch of public business, at 12 o'clock M., on Saturday, the eighteenth day of April A. D. eighteen hundred and sixty-eight; and Whereas, A proclamation for such assembling has been duly issued under our Royal Sign Manual; and

Whereas, Intelligence has been received of terrible disorders upon our Island of Hawaii, resulting in great distress to our loyal subjects there; and Whereas, Amid these appalling dispensations of Divine Providence, it is to be low in humble reverence before the infinite Majesty of our Heavenly Father, and to remember those who suffer and are in affliction; and

Whereas, It was thought that our personal presence on the Island of Hawaii would be of service to those who are in distress, and that our presence, in view of this determination, our Royal Presence will not be practicable at the opening of the said Legislative Assembly;

To the end, therefore, that upon the day appointed, as aforesaid, our Royal Dignity may be suitably represented, Our Royal Presence, fully made known and declared:

Now, know all men to whom these presents shall come, That respecting extraordinary trust and confidence in your firmness, loyalty, integrity, and judgment, We have constituted and appointed you our special Commissioner, to make known our Royal Presence to said Legislative Assembly, on the day appointed aforesaid; and We do hereby give unto our said Commissioner full power and authority in our Royal name, to declare the said Assembly open for the dispatch of Public Business, in the same manner, and to the same extent, as might be done and commanded if We were personally present.

And of this Commission and appointment, We hereby command all our loyal subjects to take notice and govern themselves accordingly, and more especially all Nobles and Representatives of the Kingdom, as well as our Ministers of State, and all Magistrates and Officers entrusted with the administration of justice, and the execution of our laws.

Given under our Royal Sign Manual, at our Palace, in the City of Honolulu, this thirtieth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight.

KAMAHAMEHA R.
By His Majesty the King: W. HUTCHINSON, Field Marshal, Minister of Interior.

After the reading of the Commission, His Majesty's address from the Throne was delivered in Hawaiian by His Honor Second Associate Justice DOW, for His Highness M. Kekuana'ohi, and in English by His Honor, Chief Justice Allen:

Notes and Representatives.—A great calamity has befallen the Island of Hawaii. My duty to my subjects has called me away from my Capital, and I have begged the Royal Commissioners to preside over my well-beloved father, to open the regular session of the Legislature.

Until the last few weeks my Kingdom had enjoyed uninterrupted prosperity. Peace, quietude and abundance had prevailed. Let us bow humbly to the will of God Almighty, whose hand is now heavy upon us, and let us, with brave heart and well-timed charity, relieve the distress of those of our countrymen who have been thus suddenly and severely afflicted.

Our relations with Foreign Powers continue to be most satisfactory. The important Treaty with the United States of America, which was considered the last extraordinary Session of the Legislature, has not yet received the ratification of the President. My Minister of Foreign Affairs will furnish you with such intelligence of the progress of the negotiation as may be, from time to time, received.

Preliminary steps have been taken by my Government to secure the conclusion of a Treaty with the Confederation of Northern Germany, to be substituted for our present treaties with Bremen and Hamburg. Some of our subjects have been distressed; changes are contemplated in our stipulations with England and France, and I confidently hope that the result of these various negotiations will increase our intercourse with Europe, and the anticipated conclusion of our Convention of Commerce with the United States will open a new trade with the great Republic of the United States.

Our negotiations with Japan have, so far, been successful. Important and favorable results may be expected from the opening of trade with, and immigration from, that Kingdom. My Minister of the Interior will inform you of the steps taken by the Bureau of Immigration to secure valuable additions to our population and laborers for our fields. An increased appropriation is applied for, to enable my Government to solve, by practical experiment, the question of immigration, whose importance to the Kingdom will not escape your attention. You will be duly advised of the measures adopted by the Board of Health during the last two years, owing, in a great measure, to the exertions of the Board, the spread of the disease of leprosy has been checked.

As soon as practicable, my Government will inform you of the extent of the damage done in Hawaii by the late volcanic eruptions. It is hoped that it will not prove so extensive as to require any considerable expenditure from the appropriation for public improvements in other islands.

Our finances are in a most prosperous condition. The report of my acting Minister of Finance will furnish you all the necessary information on the state of the treasury. Our credit stands high, our public debt is greatly reduced, and a considerable surplus is on hand. Should the Treaty of Commerce require the force of law, some further legislation may be necessary.

It may be well for the Legislature to inquire how far the property of this Kingdom, and the development of its resources, may be promoted by judicious assistance to the line of steamers plying between this port and California, as well as to our inter-island steam navigation.

The administration of justice has been conducted with fidelity and impartiality. It is thought that the public convenience will be promoted by changes in the time of holding certain terms of the Court. My Attorney General will submit to you the necessary bill for the amendment of that measure.

I refer you to the report of the President of the Board of Public Instruction for the details of the

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